AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A converter circuit with short-circuit protection ~~having~~ comprising:

a DC voltage circuit, which DC voltage circuit is formed by a DC voltage circuit subsystem, the DC voltage subsystem having a first energy store and a second energy store, which is connected in series with the first energy store[[,and]];

~~a~~ fuse; and

~~having~~ at least one pair of branches provided for each phase and connected in parallel with the DC voltage circuit, each pair of branches having power semiconductor switches, wherein the fuse forms the connection between the first energy store and the second energy store; and

a drivable short-circuit element, wherein ~~at least one~~ the ~~second~~ drivable short-circuit element is connected in parallel with the DC voltage circuit subsystem, whereby the ~~second~~ drivable short-circuit element is driven when a short-circuit current is detected in or on a pair of branches by means of a detection device and the ~~second~~ drivable short-circuit element short-circuits ~~in this case~~ the DC voltage circuit by corresponding switching.

2. (Previously Presented) The converter circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first energy store has at least one capacitor, and wherein the second energy store has at least one capacitor.

3. (Previously Presented) The converter circuit as claimed in claim 2, wherein, in the case of a first energy store having two or more capacitors, the capacitors are connected in parallel, and wherein, in the case of a second energy store having two or more capacitors, the capacitors are connected in parallel.

4. (Previously Presented) The converter circuit as claimed in claim 2, wherein, in the case of a first energy store having two or more capacitors, the capacitors are connected in series, and

wherein, in the case of a second energy store having two or more capacitors, the capacitors are connected in series.

5. (Currently Amended) The converter circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein in each case two phases are connected to one another via ~~a first~~ another drivable short-circuit element.

6. (Currently Amended) The converter circuit as claimed in claim 5, wherein the another ~~first~~ drivable short-circuit element is formed from two drivable power semiconductor switches connected back-to-back in parallel and each having pressure contact.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The converter circuit as claimed in claim [[7]] 1, wherein the ~~second~~ drivable short-circuit element is in the form of a drivable power semiconductor having pressure contact.

9. (Previously Presented) The converter circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the DC voltage circuit has at least one further DC voltage circuit subsystem of the DC voltage circuit subsystem the DC voltage circuit subsystems being connected in parallel with one another.